

Love Token Society

LOVE

LETTER

FEBRUARY, 1989



Dr. Sol Taylor
editor
PO Box 5465
N Hollywood CA 91616

LOVE TOKEN SOCIETY REGIONAL MEETING, ORLANDO, FLORIDA, JANUARY 5, 1989

Minutes of Meeting

The Love Token Society held it's first regional meeting at the Florida United Numismatists (F.U.N.) show in Orlando, Florida, at the Orange County Civic Convention Center, on Thursday, January 5, 1989. The meeting was held in room 8C at 1:00 P.M. The meeting was listed in the program book, and was announced on the house floor.

The meeting was opened by Anthony (Tony) Vigliotta, the Florida State Representative for the Love Token Society. He welcomed those present, and thanked them for their support. He advised that there was one love token exhibit and that several dealers had love tokens for sale.

President Lloyd L. Entenmann advised the members of the death of our Secretary, Len Overcash on November 4, 1988. His sudden death was unexpected, caused by the bursting of a brain tumor. The Society is now looking for a volunteer replacement. President Entenmann also advised that Editor Dr. Sol Taylor was resigning with the February issue of Love Letter. A replacement volunteer is also needed.

The balance of the meeting was devoted to the progress the President was experiencing on researching material for his book on the history and development of love tokens. He mentioned some of the interesting bits of information he has acquired primarily from contacts in Great Britain. He also advised that he was working on a definition of a love token. Several suggestions were advanced and will be taken under advisement.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M. to yield the room to the next scheduled meeting.

Attest:

Tony Vigliotta
Meeting Chairman

* * * * *

DUES DEADLINE

Current calendar year dues are payable on January 1st! In accordance with the Society By-Laws, any member who has not paid the current year's dues by June 30th will be automatically dropped from the rolls and mailing list! DON'T BE A DROPOUT!! We need your support! If you have not paid yet, please do so to-day! Until a Secretary is named, please send your payment in to the President.

* * * * *

FINANCIAL REPORTLTS #121
February, 1989

Cash balance November 30, 1988 \$3,286.91

Income:

Pues	\$490.00
Donations	1.00
Interest on check account	<u>29.04</u>
	520.04
	<u>43,806.95</u>

Expenses:

Mailing of L. L. #120	47.05
Bank balance January 31, 1989	<u>43,759.90</u>

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership at November 30, 1988	225
New Members	2
Membership at January 31, 1989	<u>227</u>

Welcome to our new members:

Cheryl Malokerinos, Juniter, Fl.
William Smith, Boykins, Va.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CATHERINE THOMPSON, OF ST. LOUIS

Congratulations to Catherine Thompson of St. Louis, Missouri upon winning a cash award for a love token exhibit at the M.N.S Coin Festival in St. Louis, during August 12 thru 14, 1988. We understand it was an excellent exhibit and merited a great deal of favorable comments.

FINDING LOVE TOKENS AT AUCTION

The majority of love tokens featured in auctions or mail bid sales are very briefly described and often relegated to the end of the sale. There are some excellent exceptions.

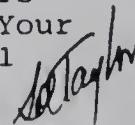
The next two pages are from a Rich Harzog sale of 1980 featuring many lots consigned by this editor. Note the estimated prices are not very different from what similar pieces would sell for today. Several pieces were featured in the STANDARD GUIDE TO LOVE TOKENS by this editor (now out of print).

When you find a well-illustrated auction or mail bid catalogue it would pay to retain it for reference--since as you can see, prices estimated (as well as prices relaized) do not vary as do other numismatic items. These pieces were selected since they are generally better quality than the usual run of initials and monograms so commonly found in love tokens.

FINAL EDITION

This is my final edition of the LOVE LETTER. It has been a very educational experience and very worthwhile. I set forth a few modest goals and attained them. One was to update the survey of love tokens and completed that in 1988. Another was to include my observations and research into the LOVE LETTER in each issue.

Finally, I was able to make contact with far more collectors than I would have otherwise and for that I am most appreciative. Your comments and contributions have been invaluable and perhaps we all shall meet and share our common interests. Until then,



Love Token Society



President
Mr. Lloyd L. Entenmann
130 Cornell Road
Audubon, NJ 08106
Tel. 609-547-2857

Secretary-Treasurer

February, 1989

Vice President
Judith A. Murphy
P.O. Box 24056
Winston-Salem, NC 27114
Tel 919-765-5335

Love Letter Editor
Dr Sol Taylor
P.O. Box 5465
No Hollywood, CA 91616

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With the beginning of a new year, I begin my second term as your President. The past two years have been hectic, and while we have lost some members through suspension for non payment of dues, I feel we have a stronger Association than we had before. We have a number of members who are showing a great deal of interest, and are doing their best to promote the hobby!

We need an Editor for our Love Letter, and I urgently request someone to volunteer! It is not an all time consuming job, but is very interesting and is an integral part of our Society. The Editor does not have to write the articles! He has to assemble the articles, have it printed, stuff the envelopes and mail. Anyone interested, please contact me as soon as possible. We also need a Secretary, but I am now working on two leads and hope to make an appointment soon.

I am still in the research part of my project to write a book on the origin and development of love tokens. I obtained through the ANA a list of some 86 possible sources of information in the United Kingdom, and have written to all of them. The results are slow (which is to be expected), but am amazed that I have had replies from over 20 so far. I have received a number of articles and photos and am now trying to evaluate them. As soon as I have a new Secretary and Editor, I will be able to spend more time on this project. If things go well, I plan on starting the first draft sometime this summer. There is a great deal of interest in my book, as I have a number of requests for a copy when it is published, and two wholesalers have placed an order.

If you have anything that you think I may be interested in, please pass it on to me. If I use it in the book, you will be given full credit for it.

Quite a few members have not as yet paid their dues! The By-Laws require that any member who has not paid their dues by June 30th is to be automatically dropped from the rolls and mailing list. Do you have your 1989 membership card?

A number of love tokens are still available, and are shown elsewhere in this bulletin. A number of them are new since the last Love Letter. If you are interested, call or write me as soon as possible, first comes, first gets! After the last Bulletin, several of you waited a week or two, and you missed out. Most of these pieces are average or above, and are priced reasonable. You also help the Society with your purchase, as it receives fifty cents for each token sold!

Elsewhere you will find a report on our first regional meeting in Orlando. I am planning on attending the ANA Mid-Winter convention in Colorado Springs in early March. I will report on that show in my next letter.

Good health, happy hunting and collecting.

Lloyd L. Entenmann

LOVE TOKENS AVAILABLE A



62
1877 FAD

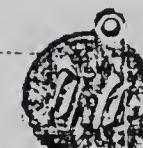
63
1875 NCH

64
1885 CRL

65
1856 EBH

66
1875 ICH

68
1875 CAD



1877 69 FUS

1860 70 II

1883 72 HLR

1875 73 TC

1882 75 DDH

1876 78 HM



1877 79 AII

1883 82 ATW

1853 85 LJS

1888 88 VGT

1875 89 EMB

1882 91 MEP



1887 92 PMF

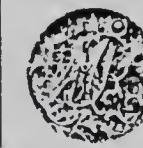
1885 93 APC

1876 94 AP

1884 95 RIJ

1876 99 MH

1890 100 GLG



1876 102 ITS

1875 103 TIV

1875 105 MK

1876 107 MKT

1857 108 MHJ

1811 AW S7.

DUES RENEWAL TIME...
\$10 Mail to Pres.
Entenmann.

LOVE TOKENS AVATLABLE B

#113 P.M.C. \$7.	#114 RT \$7.	#116 V \$12.	#118 FM \$7.	#119 RS \$10.	#120 IT \$7.
#121 P.M.C. \$7.	#122 RT \$7.	#127 CMS \$7.	#128 CTS \$7.	#129 CW? \$7.	#131 MIP \$7.
#132 1.PM \$7.	#133 NLH \$7.	#134 MMF \$7.	#135 MPR \$8.	#137 OES \$8.	#138 PMN \$10.
#139 P.M. \$7.	#140 P.M. \$7.	#141 SAM \$8.	#142 SBH \$7.	#143 SGB \$10.	#144 ?? \$7.
#145 S.P. \$8.	#146 THM \$7.	#147 TJE \$7.	#148 TNJ \$8.	#150 WAS \$7.	#151 WPD \$7.

VALENTINE'S DAY
February 14, 1989

For free list of love tokens for
sale, send SASE to Dr. Sol Taylor
PO Box 5465, N.Hollywood CA 91616

LOVE TOKENS AVAILABLE



#152

HGW

\$7.



#153

WLW

\$8.



#154

WNA

\$8.



#156

WSF

\$7.



#158

JT?

\$7.



#160

?

\$7.



S-1

ES

SC



S-2

RI

\$6.



S-3

BRG

\$6.



S-4 (exper?)

MM

\$5.



S-5 (k.o.)

1agf

\$2.



Z-4

NC

1/.

Z-8

C

6.

Z-9

FBH

7.

Z-10

NBL

7.

Z-11

CWE

7.

Z-13

h/o



Z-15

MRS

1/0



Z-17

DWL

1/0

NOTE: The quality of the photos is best available since the coins were Xeroxed thru the vinyl stock pages and the copy received for printing was weak.

All love tokens #61 through #110 are on U. S. Dimes and are \$7.00 each. Make check payable to and send to Lloyd J. Entenmann, 130 Cornell Road, Audubon, N. J. 08106. Please include postage and insurance: for up to 7 tokens- \$1.15; up to 14 tokens, \$2.15; and up to 21 tokens \$3.15.

Dimes...

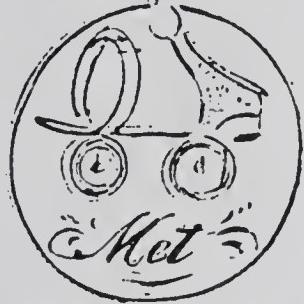


1962. Ship: Detailed side view of two-masted ship under sail, with foresail, waves, banner: "Forget/Me Not"; "Addie" Gothic, scallop border. Top loop, loop. Nice! (\$20-25+)

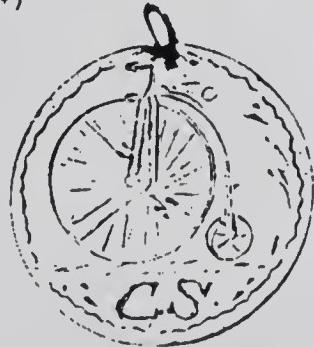


1963. Rowboat: Nicely detailed rowboat, with two oars lengthwise, "Belle" on one. Several birds, clouds, waves, narrow border. 1882, 3 holes. (\$20-25)

1964. Rollerskate: Simply detailed to right, below: "H.V.P." block letters. 1875, top hole. (\$20+)

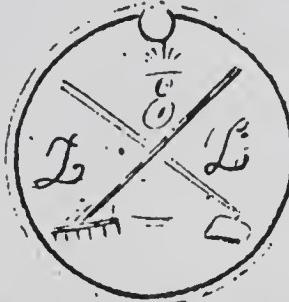


1965. Rollerskate: Finely detailed rollerskate to left, with toe strap, shaded, below: "Met" script, flourishes, narrow border. 1877, top hole. (\$20-25+)

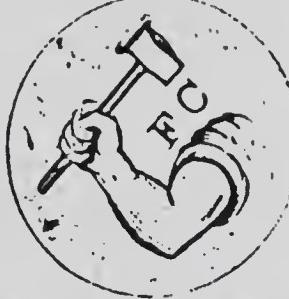


1966. Bicycle: High wheel bicycle, flourishes, "CS" below, narrow border. 1875, two holes. (\$20-25)

1967. Bicycle: High wheel bicycle, shaded ground. Also nicely done. 1886, top hole. (\$20-25)
1968. Gun: Civil War cap at top, crossed flintlock rifle and sword, below: "Geo.", simple Gothic. Finely detailed, shaded. Narrow border, rim cut. Rev. blank, 3 holes. (\$15-20+)



1969. Hoe, Rake: Crossed hoe and rake, with script letters in 3 sections: "L.E.L". Narrow border. 1891, top hole. (\$15+)



1970. Hammer: Muscular arm with part of shirt showing, bent at elbow, hand clasping a hammer. "FC" block letters above arm, under hammer. 1850, pin removed, rev. scrapped down. (\$15-20+)

1971. Anvil: Large shaded anvil center, below: "G.E.B" Block, strong border. 1891, top hole. (\$15-20+)

1972. Cross: Large shaded cross, rayed, leaves below. 1843.

1973. Sun: Radiant sun face, eyes showing, peering over curved bar center, ornately engraved, below: "G.W.M." block, strong rayed border. 1887, 4 holes. (\$15+)

1974. Dam: View of dam, center, houses either side, "Ho...oke/Dam" above, below: "H.S.R." block, flourishes, narrow border. 1877, top hole cut thru rim. (\$15)

1975. Scene: Detailed view of castle, house on lake shore, mountains behind. Leaf border. Rev. smooth, scr. (\$15+)

1976. "H.T.G." script, flourishes, 1892.

1977. "June 14/PB/1900", block, except center, ornate script. Narrow border. 1900, AU. (\$10+)

1978. "Kalph" block letters, ornate flourishes above, below, slant cut border. 1892, top hole. (\$10+)

1979. Dog: Mean looking long snouted dog (or?), "OAL" block letters above, toothed border. 1892, two holes. (\$15-20)

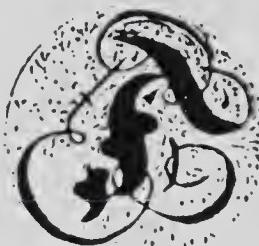
1980. Scenic: Horse shoe and riding whip intertwined, shaded. 1892, two holes. (\$15)

Twenty Cent

1981. "Mrs/Donald" script, flourishes. 1875 20¢, top hole. (\$30-40)

Seated Quarter

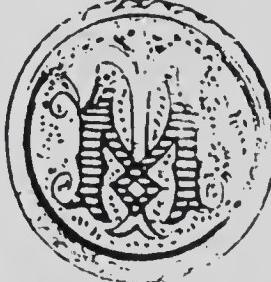
1982. "A" elaborate Gothic, shaded nicely, wide zigzag border. 1885, arrows, pin removed.
1983. "C" elaborate Gothic, unusual wide multiple border. 1858, top hole.
1984. "C" Enamored elaborate Gothic, all in black, with fully detailed field, black enamel rim. 1854, arrows, pin removed. XF, enamel chipped in spots. (\$15-20)



1985. "F" Enamored, extremely elaborate Gothic (so much so, not sure it is an "F"!). Letter, multiple flourishes all in blue enamel, field fully detailed, narrow border. 1853, arrows, pin removed. Choice XF. (\$20+)

1986. "F" ornate Gothic, variable shading, elaborate leaf wreath border. 1856, pin removed. (\$10+)

1987. "S" Gothic, with scallop multiple border. 1858, pin removed.



1988. "MT" Enamored Stud. Block Gothic letters, intertwined, outlined in black enamel, "M" shaded ornately engraved field, black enamel border; V-cut border. 1853 arrows, stud. (\$15-20+)

1989. "JJP" script, with double intertwined shaded rope border, flourishes, etc. 1854, arrows, pin, clasp broken.

1990. "Mariah" script, narrow scalloped border. 1860, pin removed. (\$10+)

1991. "M. Knott" script, wide multiple border, lined with floral stamps. 1857, pin removed. (\$10+)

1992. "J.H.L./Engine/Driver/G.T.R.", all in flowery script, flourishes, nice running border, flourishes. 1856, pin removed, rev. scr. (\$10-15+)

1993. "Mat." in ornate Gothic, shaded, flourishes above, below. Narrow border. Rev. pin intact. (\$15+)

Dollars
Seated & Trade



1994. "E.C. Shelenberger" in script in center bar, very ornate double half circles above, below, with small flowers, hearts, flourishes. Nice triple border: zig-zag, plain, edge cut. Rev. pin intact. (\$20-25)



1995. Engine: Very finely engraved side view of unknown machine, large wheel to right, controls to left. "H.R." ornate Gothic above, inward scallop border. Said by former owner to have been obtained at 1904 LPE, St. Louis. Rev. pin. (\$20-25+)

1996. Fire Engine. Pre 1900 style fire engine, boiler on large wheeled cart. 1876, top hole, worn VG/F, some details missing. (\$10-15)

Barber Quarter

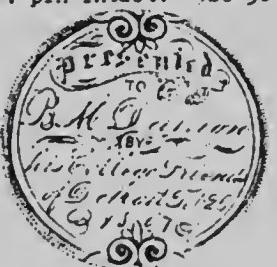
1997. "L" Gothic, center of obv., stars, motto, date remain. 1892, minor rim damage.



Half Dollar

1998. "D.A.B." script, mate scalloped zigzag bord . 1834 Bust, pin removed. (\$20 5+)

1999. "Father" script, flourishes, nice curlycue border. Rev. "Park W. Ayery 18" " small script above eagle. Bust 50¢, rev. pin intact. (\$20-30+)



2000. Award: "Presented to B.M. Damon by his College Friends of Detroit Feb 25/1867" all nicely done in flowing script, many flourishes, toothed border, flourishes above, below. Seated "O" mint 50¢, pin removed. (\$20-30+)

2004. "NU" ornate Gothic, intertwined, bold & deeply cut, shaded & curlyques, with field very finely dot engraved, wide border, unusually cross-shaded. 1882, pin removed. Very fine quality. (\$100-125+)



2005. "E B E" block cut, expanded to fill circle, variably shaded. On obv. Fine quality. (\$100+)
2006. "E W M" intertwined, "E" script, "WM" Gothic, all shaded differently. Multiple border, toothed, double cut and zigzags. 1885, pin removed. Fine quality. (\$100+)



2007. "UIB" ornate Gothic, flourishes, with finely dot detailed field. Ornate toothed border with floral flourishes, etc. 1891, pin removed. Very fine quality. (\$100-125+)



2003. "LR" ornate Gothic, intertwined, bold & deeply cut, shaded, flourishes. Sawtooth double border. 1879, pin intact. Very fine quality. (\$100-125+)

2008. "Carrie" large block letters on banner, with "C" very large, Gothic. Letters shaded, banner background vertically shaded, large flourishes top & bottom of banner, field lightly shaded. Multiple border, deep cut, slant cut edge. 1884, pin intact. Very fine quality. (\$125+)



2009. "Maria" block letters on banner, "M" very large, ornate Gothic. Large flower, leaves above banner, which is curled top and bottom. Field fully engraved. Large ornate border, double very deeply cut, scallops, toothed, etc. 1878. Very fine quality. (\$125+)



2003

Love Token Society

President
Mr Lloyd L Entenmann
130 Cornell Road
Audubon, NJ 08106
Tel: 609-547-2857

LOVE LETTER #122



Secretary-Treasurer

April 1989

Vice President
Judith A Murphy
P.O Box 24066
Winston-Salem, NC 27114
Tel 919-765-5335

Love Letter Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

For the past four months I have been involved in a great deal of correspondence with fellow numismatists in Great Britain. I am astounded at the interest and cooperation I have been getting from the clubs, societies, and museums that I have contacted for help in researching love tokens in Great Britain.

In my research in this country, I found three sources which state that the oldest known love token is a 1707 Queen Anne half-crown with three initials and a sword. I finally found an article in England that describes the same coin but gives the initials, and gives me a lead as to where the coin may be. I am awaiting a further answer on this. However, I have found a photograph of an older love token, and references to pieces that preceed the coin of the realm. The cooperation I am getting is unbelievable! At present, I plan to begin the first draft of my book sometime this summer, if all goes well.

I have secured a new Secretary, as noted elsewhere in this Love Letter. I am still looking for an Editor. Please, someone out there, volunteer!

In accordance with our by-laws, our former Secretary dropped nearly 150 members for non-payment of dues. So far I have reinstated over 40, and am now making a last attempt to get back some of the remaining 102. Since our last Love Letter, we have received 10 new members. Please READ ALL of this Love Letter, as as there are important notices on our activities that are crucial to our existence!

Don't forget, if you have any questions or problems, please do not hesitate to contact me. That is what I am here for!

Sincerely,

* * * * *

NEW SECRETARY APPOINTED

Effective April 1, 1989, Charles Godfrey has agreed to become Secretary for the Love Token Society. Mr. Godfrey is a retired accountant, and currently serving as an officer of the Huntingdon Valley Area Kiwanis Club. His address is 3575 Sipler Lane, Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006, and his telephone 215-947-4856. All dues and normal correspondence is to be directed to him. Please give him your fullest support.

* * * * *

\$\$ DUES \$\$

Dues of the Society are \$10.00 per year, payable in advance on January 1st. Are your dues paid? Over half of the members have not paid as yet. Please send in your dues if you have not paid. We cannot afford to have another drop as last year. We need your support!

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership January 31, 1989.....	227
New members.....	<u>10</u>
	237
Resigned.....	1
Suspended.....	<u>3</u>
	4
Membership March 31, 1989.....	233

New Members:

Robert E. Little, Montello, Wi.
 Joseph L. Gallo, Alexandria, Va.
 Mark L. Rollins Sr., Mattituck, N.Y.
 Charlotte Maris, Everett, Wa.
 Cathleen Corcoran, Gettysburg, Pa.
 Richard G. Gross, Venice, Fl.
 Earl A. Shoemaker, Iola, Wi.
 Joel Edler, Iola, Wi.
 Carl R. Marusak, Dearborn, Mi.
 Charles Godfrey, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.

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FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance as of January 31, 1989.....	\$3,759.90
Receipts: Dues.....	\$ 300.00
New Members.....	100.00
Check account interest 3 mos	<u>49.04</u>
	449.04
	\$4,208.94
Expenses: Ck.#128 U.S. Postal--stanos.	\$ 76.75
Ck.#129 Sol Taylor, LL#121..	53.63
Ck.#130 U.S. Postal, envelopes	<u>135.21</u>
	265.59
Balance as of March 31, 1988.....	<u>\$3,943.35</u>

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LOVE TOKEN EXHIBITS

The Love Token Society has underwritten an exhibit award program for Love Token exhibits at the annual ANA convention. The award provides for first, second, and third place placques. The rules require that at least three exhibits will be entered each year, otherwise the program will be forfeited! Last year there were only two exhibits! We must have at least three this year or the program is in danger of being dropped! If you can exhibit at Pittsburgh, please contact Richard Crosby, 2543 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15222, as soon as possible and request the Love Token Exhibitor application. This will give you all the information and directions you need. If you still want more advice or information, please do not hesitate to contact me. The address is 130 Cornell Road, Audubon, N. J. 08106, telephone, 609-547-2857.

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LOVE TOKEN AUCTION

I have been asked if the Society was planning another love token auction in August. At present I have nothing for an auction. If any member would like to put some love tokens in an auction, please contact me no later than April 30th. It takes a while to put a catalogue together and have it duplicated and mailed out in time. The consignor rules are simple. You must accept the highest bid as final, and there is a 10% charge to the Society to cover the cost of the catalogue and mailing. Last year's auction barely covered expenses. On higher priced pieces, you may place a minimum acceptable bid, but be sure it is reasonable, otherwise no one will bid on it. I have been asked why not have consignor and buyer share the fee. Past experience seems to indicate that when this is done, the buyer deep discounts his bid and consignor ends up with less than when he shares the full charge.

* * * * *

LOVE TOKENS AVAILABLE A



62
1877 FER

63
1875 MCG

64
1885 CRL

65
1856 EBH

66
1875 HJ

68
1875 CAD



69
1877 FMS

72
1883 HLR

73
1875 TC

75
1882 DDH

76
1876 HM

74
1877 ARJ



85
1853 LJS

89
1883 VGT

89
1875 EME

91
1882 MEP

92
1887 PMF

93
1885 JRC



94
1876 AP

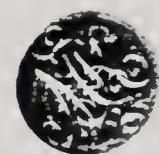
95
1884 RHJ

90
1876 NH

100
1890 GLG

102
1876 WFS

103
1875 TLW



105
1875 NK

107
1876 MKT

108
1857 MHJ

111
W \$7.

113
\$7.

114
\$7.
\$10.

All love tokens #61 through #110 are on U. S. Dimes and are \$7.00 each. Make check payable to and send to Lloyd L. Entenmann, 130 Cornell Road, Audubon, N. J. 08106. Please include postage and insurance: for up to 7 tokens - \$1.15; up to 14 tokens, \$2.15; and up to 21 tokens \$3.15.

LOVE TOKENS AVAILABLE B



#116

U \$12.

#118

FS \$10.

#120

HT \$7.

#121

RMC \$8.

#122

RT \$7.

#127

CMS \$7.



#128

CTS \$7.

129

CUT? \$7.

#132

LPE \$7.

#133

NLU \$7.

#134

NMF \$7.

#137

OES \$8.



#138 ~~Damaged~~
PMN \$10.

#139
HUF \$7.

#140
FUF \$7.

#141
SAM \$8.

#142
SAM \$8.

#143
SEB \$10.



#144

S.I. \$7.

#145

SIMI \$8.

#146

THM \$7.

#147

TJE \$7.

#148

TMJ \$7.

#151

TEB \$7.



#152

"GU \$7.

#153

ULW \$8.

#154

VIA \$8..

#156

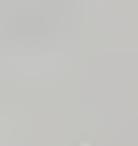
"SP \$7.

#158

JT ? \$7..

#160

? \$7..



S-1

SS \$6.

S-2

SI \$6.

S-3

BEG \$6.

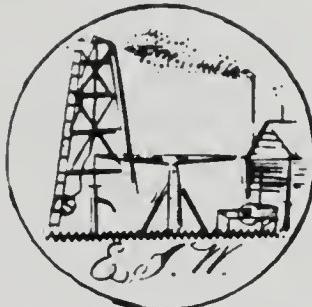
S-4 (exper?)

NM \$5.

S-5 (k.o.)

leaf \$2.

DON A. WILKINSON
LTS NO. 478



This article is about one of my more interesting Love Tokens featuring an oil field scene. I purchased this token at Gordon's Coin & Knife Shop in Amarillo, Texas for \$10.00 in December 1986.

The token has a reverse showing U.S. quarter dollar of 1836 to 1865 (no rays) vintage and shows evidence of solder spots for a pin. The obverse has a scene of an early oil well rig circa 1860-1910. I had the coin studied by Bennie Wallace of Wallace Engineering, Houston, Texas. Mr. Wallace declares the details in the token scene as being technically accurate for that period. Bennie reminds me that oil was first discovered and produced in Texas in 1895. He describes the engraved scene as follows;

The building on the right is the engine house where steam is generated to operate the steam engine which provides belt transmitted power through the wall of the building to the bull wheel. The bull wheel is connected off center to the walking beam which in turn provides the up and down motion to a cable connected to the down hole drilling tool. The triangular structure holding the walking beam is known as the Sampson Post.

The up and down motion of the drilling tool plus the weight of the tool loosens the dirt down hole which is retrieved by a bucket or bailer. In those days a well was drilled to a depth of approximately 25 to 100 feet. When a pocket of oil was reached, the oil would seep or run into the drill hole.

When oil was reached a simple plunger type pump would be placed in the bottom of the drill hole. A pump rod would be attached to the walking beam, which would give the up and down pumping action.

The structure over the well is a wooden derrick and was used both in the drilling operation and later to service the down hole pump. The rope or line shown dangling on the side of the derrick runs through the sheave or pulley at the top of the derrick and was used to pull out the drilling tool and bailer, then later to pull the pump rods and downhole pump when repairs were necessary.

I wonder what oil well driller or oil baron had this token made or wore it through the years? EIW are the initials under the scene. On the reverse, the initials AB are crudely inscribed in the area on either side of the eagles head.



Concentrated Efforts in Love Token Collecting

Anyone attempting to form a Love Token collection should first decide in what form his or her collection will be assembled. Many just collect whatever catches their eye without giving thought to collecting in a specific direction. While this attitude may satisfy some individuals, these types of collections are often simply "accumulations" which in the long run often lack in holding the particular collectors interest. Then too, if, when forming an exhibit, it is just thrown together rather than carefully formed, it will often lack the "pizzaz" that it takes to create an award winner.

Love Token collectors can eliminate these collection formation problems if they take the time to specialize, which involves the breaking down of Love Tokens into their various catagories.

Listed below, for your perusal, are several ways in which you could start your specialized collection. Each and every collection will take different amounts of planning, searching, patience and of course, the necessary funds.

In evaluating your personal situation it is important to establish your long range goals first. This, in turn, will help you in creating a more fascinating and complete collection.

The Monogram Love Token Collection. This type of collection, which is probably, initially (pun intended), the most common form of collecting, usually encompasses only those Love Tokens which eariler were engraved or stamped with a plain or fancy initial(s). The specimens are most often placed in 2X2 flips and displayed without regard to coin type or metal content.

The "Message" Love Token Collection. Collections formed with Love Tokens of this nature are somewhat more interesting because they often tell a story, such as, "Edward Reese, Born, December 21, 1886" or "York Minster, J.C., Burnt 1829." Interestingly, the message specialists appreciation for his Love Tokens, are sometimes compounded through in depth research of the individual messages, which can lead the owner to obscure historical facts. The challenges presented by message Love Tokens are the types that a collector can really "sink his teeth into."

Again, often with this type of collection, little attention is paid to coin type or metal content. However, this is justifiable because to do so would limit the collection and some very intriguing messages.

The Picture or Scenic Love Token Collection. Those who enjoy various forms of artwork, from the crude engravings to the miniature masterpieces, will truly appreciate the work involved in Scenic Love Tokens. Some of these pieces were created by military personnel in an attempt to pass the time while others were made to advertise a persons trade in life, such as a carpenter, blacksmith or merchant. Whatever their reason for existance, these small engraved pictures can be

further categorized and assembled by related pictures. For instance, one section of the collection might consist of landscape Love Tokens while another section may be made up of Love Tokens showing boats (ships), or animals. Of course, these sections would depend on your interest, patience and luck in searching.

It would seem that just about everyone would be proud to own and display one of the three above mentioned specialized collections, yet, perhaps, you may consider these goals not enough in the way of a challenge. Maybe you are the type of collector who enjoys being driven mad by the search and assembly of the specialized "classic" Love Token collection. If this is your wish; your interest--then read on.

The Love Token Year Set Collection. This collection is formed by picking a particular year--say, 1892--and then seeing how many Love Token/coin types you can come up with.

Using the ever popular "Redbook", as a guide, we can see that the formation of a complete 1892 year set would consist of the following;

- A. An 1892 Love Token/Indian Head cent
- B. An 1892 Love Token/Liberty Head, "V" type, 5-cent piece
- C. An 1892 Love Token/Barber dime
- D. An 1892 Love Token/Barber quarter
- E. An 1892 Love Token/Barber half dollar
- F. An 1892 Love Token/Morgan dollar

Admittedly, this type of collection is difficult with many of the Love Tokens being scarce to extremely rare in the various coin types. Still, this is not to say that this collection cannot be completed. Careful searching and possibly a bit of trading or advertising may help you in obtaining your goal. One thing is a certainty, a year set such as this would be a challenge and very eye catching indeed.

The Love Token Date Set Collection. Assembledge of the date set collection is somewhat easier because you can have multiples of the different coin types. For example, let us use the date of 1889. Your collection might consist of several Liberty Seated half dimes, several Liberty Seated dimes, with occasional entries in the form of an Indian Head cent, Three-Cent piece or Morgan dollar--all of which would bare the 1889 date. This type of collection would be no small part of history!

The A through Z Love Token Collection. Now here is an idea for a collection that could nurture your interest for years to come. You could collect initial type Love Tokens; either single initial or use the first initial of Love Tokens exhibiting monograms, then assemble them in the form of the alphabet. You might even go so far as to form the alphabet using names, such as, "Abner" for "A", "Betsy" for "B", "Caroline" for "C", and so forth. This may sound difficult at first, but if you will consider that initial type Love Tokens are, by far, the most common type, then perhaps you will agree that this assembledge could indeed be accomplished. I can just see the looks this collection would get in an exhibit case.

The Love Token Type Set Collection. Does the thought of a Love Token type set cause your pulse to race? Are you looking for a feeling of great accomplishment? Then accept the challenge and begin your quest. Although the Love Token type set collection goal is not for everyone; it is this fact that makes this collection appealing. Impossible? Never! Some collectors have already completed their type collection while others only lack one or two Love Token/coin types.

In my opinion, listed below are the Love Tokens which would constitute a complete type collection. Housed in a custom "Capitol" holder, this set would be a sight to behold!

1. Love Token/Half cent
2. Love Token/Large cent
3. Love Token/Flying Eagle cent
4. Love Token/Indian Head cent
5. Love Token/Three-Cent piece
6. Love Token/Shield 5-cent piece
7. Love Token/Liberty Head 5-cent piece
8. Love Token/Liberty Seated Half dime
9. Love Token/Bust dime
10. Love Token/Liberty Seated dime
11. Love Token/Barber dime
12. Love Token/20-Cent piece
13. Love Token/Seated Liberty quarter
14. Love Token/Barber quarter
15. Love Token/Capped Bust half dollar
16. Love Token/Seated Liberty half dollar
17. Love Token/Barber half dollar
18. Love Token/Seated Liberty dollar
19. Love Token/Morgan dollar

Sound easy? Hardly! Of course, you could add a Love Token/Peace dollar or maybe a Love Token/Capped Bust quarter as the addition or deletion of certain pieces is up to the individual collector. Again, use your handy copy of the "Redbook" as your guide.

This specialized Love Token collection list could go on and on, but I am sure, by now you have the idea and possibly a direction. Still more food for thought is Foreign Love Token collecting, YOUR initials Love Token collecting or even Colonial Love Token collecting. They are all there, just waiting for you to make the first move--GC FOR IT!

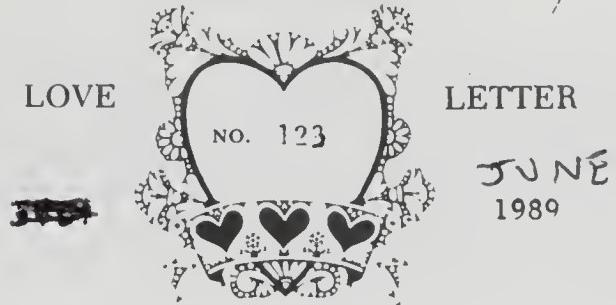
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Michigan 48183

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FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance as of March 31, 1989 \$ 3,943.35

Receipts

Dues	\$ 180.00
New Members	60.00
Check Account Interest 1 month	<u>18.31</u>
	<u>258.31</u>
	\$4,201.66

Expenses

Ck. 131 Print LL#122 .	\$ 56.00
Ck. 132 U.S. Post Ser stamps&postage	51.85
Ck. 133 ANA Convention	85.00
Ck. 134 U.S. Post Ser Envelopes	133.40
	326.25

Balance as of May 31, 1989 \$ 3,875.41

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership March 31, 1989	233
New Members	7
Reinstated	5

Resigned	1
Suspended	1

Membership May 31, 1989	243

New Members

Charles M. Shure, Newton Center, MA
Roy N. Pawlucke, Kirkland, WA
Peter P. Nowack, Indian Orchard, MA
John Dreistadt, Chicago, IL
Marilyn Overcash, Darien, IL
Don Bunjevac, Toronto, Canada
Dr. Robin L. Futoran, Studio City, CA

NEW EDITOR APPOINTED

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse has volunteered to accept the appointment of Editor of the Love Letter effective with the August 1989 issue. Dr. Newhouse has been given a free hand as to the size and content of the Love Letter, and will appreciate any comments and suggestions from the membership. Your utmost support and cooperation is earnestly requested. He can be reached at 3200 Ella Lane, Manhattan, Kansas, 66502. His telephone number is 913-539-1831.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Great Britain research project has slowed up a bit, and it seems like I have reached the limit of what is available in articles. I am in contact with three collectors and two museums that have sizable collections. However in order to get pictures of what I would like to use in my book, I have to see what is available. To accomplish this task, I am planning to go to England right after I return from Pittsburgh in August. My correspondents all seem enthused with my coming over, and have agreed to give me all the cooperation I want. I am planning on spending about one month over there, and hope it will prove worthwhile.

Regarding an auction at our annual meeting, it will not be, as I only had one response of 5 pieces for consignment. Rather than try to get a speaker for the meeting, I thought the members would like to see some of the material I have received for the book, and set some advance information on what the book will cover.

ANA has finally released a news item nationally, and it appeared in Coin World and The Numismatist, about the Love Token Society Exhibit Certificate Award program. So far, two certificates have been awarded, both to members of the Society. Recognition is given elsewhere in this Love Letter.

I am happy to announce the appointment of an Editor as noted elsewhere in this Love Letter. I urge the members to send him news articles on anything the membership might be interested in. Long or short articles are welcome!

A call for the annual meeting of the membership is in this Letter, and I urge all members who can to attend our meeting. Please make yourself known to me, as I do not know many by sight.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Hartmann
President

* * * * *

EXHIBIT CERTIFICATE AWARDS

Congratulations to member Catherine Thompson of St. Louis, Missouri on earning the first Exhibit Certificate Award from the Love Token Society for her exhibit at the N.N.S. Festival in August 1988 at St. Louis. The second award was earned by member Anthony P. Vigliotta of Winter Park, Florida for his exhibit at the FUN show in January 1989. Congratulations to both and continued good luck!

* * * * *

CALL FOR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The annual meeting of the members of the LOVE TOKEN SOCIETY will be held in conjunction with the 98th Anniversary Convention of the American Numismatic Association in the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on Friday, August 11, 1989, in room South 7, at 2:00 p.m.

* * * * *

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

Nearly half of the members have not yet paid their 1989 dues! Your support is urgently needed. Earlier this year we dropped 104 members for non-payment of dues for 1988. We cannot afford to lose any more. If you have not yet paid, Please do so now by sending it into the new Secretary! Please and thank you.

The first meeting of the Canadian chapter of the Love Token Society was held on March 18, at the Toronto International Coin Fair. Although attendance was small, and unfortunately no LTS members were able to be present, nevertheless interest and enthusiasm were in full force.

I kicked off the meeting with an informal talk about multiple love token pieces, discussing features and types and illustrating my talk with references to pieces from my own collection which I had brought for display. Two pieces were of particular interest to the audience. One was a fob chain, consisting of three French coins of graduating sizes; engraved on each one was a maple leaf, the words 'New Ontario, Canada', the number '52' and the name 'T. S. Mackay'. A member of the audience was later able to identify for me that the owner would have been from the Port Arthur, Ontario regiment. The other was a bracelet with 44 tokens, many engraved with fine pictorials and quaint messages.

Following a short buy-and-sell auction and some draws, Don Bunjevac of Toronto took the podium with a very interesting and well-researched talk on the origins of the word 'Mizpah', which one occasionally sees engraved on coins. His talk was illustrated with some Mizpah tokens from his own collection. (I have separately submitted the text for this speech to the Newsletter - so don't miss reading this!)

Also on display were some really exceptional love tokens from the collection of John Curtis of Toronto. Particularly outstanding were a communion token, completely hand-engraved on both sides, a token with a beautifully engraved head of a girl, and a set of bronze British pennies, on which were engraved the names of key World War II battles. John was on hand to talk about his collection, and stressed the importance of taking the time to really look at each piece and reflect on the story or history behind it.

I really enjoyed organizing this meeting, and I think that everyone present found it worthwhile. Now that I've broken the ice, maybe this could become an annual event, in Toronto, or maybe some other Canadian city.

Mary Hall-Kapoor
Regional Director,
Edmonton, Love Token
Society

MIZPAH TOKENS

by Don Bunjevac

As a collector of love tokens, I have occasionally encountered pieces which seemed to fit the general description of a love token (i.e. a coin ground down on one side (or both) and engraved with initials, a name, date, scene, etc.), but engraved with the word "MIZPAH". Since engraved coins have been used for other purposes than as tokens of affection given to a loved one, such as prizes, advertising or club membership, I was reluctant to acquire these pieces. Moreover, in trying to discern what they might be, I thought that Mizpah was a Hebrew word, similar perhaps to Bar Mitzvah, and, as such, of some religious significance, but not a love token. Well, I was both right and wrong, as I was lead to discover after finding two of these Mizpah tokens (described below) which did look more like love tokens after all.

A logical place to start one's search for information is a good dictionary. Mine gave Mizpah as - Mizpah (Hebrew) literally, a watchtower; the name of several places in ancient Palestine, especially applied to the heap of stones gathered in Mt. Gilead by Jacob and his brethren as a remembrance of the covenant made with Laban (Gen.xxi.49): in modern usage the word signifies a parting salutation, suggested by Laban's prayer - "The Lord watch between me and thee, when we are absent from one another."(1) This was starting to look promising, so, off to my Bible for the background story.

Having exhausted my own sources, I headed for the local library where I found the following modern English version of the story. Jacob had been serving Laban for 14 years, and although he was married to two of Laban's daughters, had been treated unfairly in that Laban had tried to pay him under tricky circumstances, e.g. with all cattle that were born speckled or ring-streaked. But God had intervened and all cattle were born that way (God was on the side of the good guy, or, as some would say, Jacob was a keen student of genetics), so that Jacob grew rich but Laban's sons were discontented. Then God commanded Jacob to return to Palestine. One of his wives, Rachel, stole some images of gods and Laban chased and caught up with them at the place in question (Galeed). Jacob knew what Rachel had done, and of a trick she had for fooling Laban, so he said that Laban should search and if he found the gods in anyone's tent, that person would die. Rachel was sitting on the gods, apologized to her father for not rising when he entered her tent, saying she was "in the way of women" (i.e. her menstrual period), so Laban found nothing. Then Jacob was indignant, and Laban suggested a covenant between them; they made a heap of stones and a pillar, and ate a meal. Then Laban said to Jacob that the heap and the pillar were witnesses that he would not pass over them to do harm to Jacob and vice-versa. They offered a sacrifice and the next morning, Laban returned home.(2)

This was not looking good, since the underlying story was not connected to lovers at all, but to a quarrel and deceit! Moreover, the same source suggested that the significance of this Mizpah, the pillar erected by Jacob and Laban, was as a boundary between Israel and Syria, or the land of the Aramaians (Laban's homeland) - not a "lover"-ly connection, especially in light of the recent political situation. A further reference was that "the popularly named "Mizpah Benediction" derives from Laban's request that God keep Jacob honest while Laban was absent and could not."(3) In the love token context, might this suggest a lover's caution to be faithful while they were parted?

More encouraging were the following references: "a word usually inscribed on a ring given to a friend in token of remembrance"(4), and "an expression or token of association ("The Lord watch between me and thee") especially used to designate an ornament with "Mizpah" inscribed upon it, as given by a lover."(5)

We can see that, despite the ambiguous or even negative connotations, as the word came to be used, the focus was on the love implied by the parting words.

The 1887 reference, "A deeper, more mysteriously beautiful meaning than appears at first sight, is comprehended in the word "Mizpah" - light within light, circle within circle, revelation within revelation."(5) is very poetic and romantic. In commercial contrast to this is the 1898 T.Eaton & Co. Catalogue for Spring & Summer offering a 10k Mizpah ring. The following literary instances clearly show the evolving use of the word between lovers and, in particular, its use on jewelry. "Was she wearing his presents? the sapphire brooch... the "Mizpah" bangle."(6) - this could easily have been a Mizpah love token. "The thick wedding-ring, with the heavy "Mizpah" ring squeezed on her finger over it."(7) "Mizpah, as they say inside the engagement rings." and ""Anyhow, Gemini, Mizpah!" ... "Mizpah," he responded. Like most English people they thought that was a pledge between two young lovers."(8) - the author seems to imply that this was an incorrect usage. "The pedlars ... used to bring the silver "Mizpah" brooches."(9) "He gave me the gold Victorian locket - engraved with the word "Mizpah", "God watch between us two" - which he had given to his fiancee."(10)

Now, since we've seen how the word came to be used as a token of love, let's look at some of the Mizpah love tokens. Shown in Fig.1 is a typical obverse, which, although nicely engraved, was the type I had been passing up. It was the reverse of this 25¢-size silver piece which convinced me that it was a love token; it is engraved ·E·S·A· | FROM | ·E·C·M· | Apl.21/83 and has a brooch pin. Fig.2 shows a very busy piece, engraved on the obverse of an 1887 G.B. shilling: W.B.H. | JOE|MIZPAH|WILL | B.R. | APRIL 23RD 1899 - this seems to suggest two male friends, but the initials don't match the names; any help?

Fig.3, from the Rich Hartzog Auction Catalogue of August 13,1983, shows a lovely scene of a crane in a marsh, on a Trade Dollar of 1878, and is scarce. A 16mm silverplated brass struck (not engraved) piece is shown in Fig.4; the obverse with only MIZPAH, the reverse featuring a horseshoe within a wreath - a double good luck piece! A modern (ca. 1960) example, although I don't understand the usage, occurs as No. 719 in So-Called Dollars by Hibler & Kappen, Fig.5; notice that they got the principal players wrong! Although the word can also be spelled "Mizpeh", I don't recall having seen any pieces with that spelling.

As I learned more about Mizpah, its literal meaning "watchtower" and its use on love tokens, another interesting possibility came to mind. I have seen several love tokens with scenes including a lighthouse, and had previously thought only that they represented actual places where the lovers had met, spent wonderful vacations together or perhaps had bought the love token there. However, especially when one considers the early history of love tokens as a parting gift from a sailor, it now seems probable that the lighthouse (or watchtower) is symbolic of the Mizpah sentiment, and, as such, all love tokens with a lighthouse are also Mizpah tokens. Illustrated as Fig.6 is a lovely U.S. 1881 Silver Dollar with MARY, a lighthouse and ship. Also shown as Fig.7 is an early Victorian 10¢ piece with a lovely lighthouse scene and the intriguing letters FECK. Since it is unusual to have more than three initials, I had suspected that this might be a surname or a foreign word, but it may possibly be intended as the opposite of the English word "feckless", with the intended meaning of "care, responsible, constant or true", perhaps an "in-joke" between the two lovers. A bit fanciful, you say - well that's what love tokens are all about! MIZPAH.

1. Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary, Unabridged, Second Edition
2. The Interpreter's Bible

3. Harper's Bible Dictionary
4. Klein's Comprehensive Etymological Dictionary of the English Language
5. Oxford English Dictionary Supplement
6. B.M. Croker, "Company's Servant", 1907
7. P. Webling, "Story of Virginia Perfect", 1909
8. H.G. Wells, "Babes in Darkling Wood", 1940
9. M.K. Ashby, "Joseph Ashby", 1961
10. I. Origo, "Images and Shadows", 1970



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

MIZPAH



Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Obv. Wagon train proceeding l.; mountains in background;
above East Tincup. Colo. / Re-Live / the Old West / With
Us
Rev. Tin cup in center; on cup Gen. 31: 49; above Mizpah;
below cup East Tincup. Colo. (Biblical reference: Mizpah's
farewell to his brother, Joseph "The Lord watch between
me and thee when we are absent one from another.")



Fig. 6



Fig. 7

LOVE TOKENS AVAILABLE

On the last page of this Love Letter are 42 love tokens that are still available. Those that do not show a price are \$7.00 each. These coins belong to members who wish to dispose of them. If you are interested in any of them send your check made out to Lloyd L. Entenmann, and include postage and insurance: 1 to 7 tokens \$1.15; 8 to 14 tokens \$2.15; 15 to 21 tokens \$3.15.

Dr. Sol Taylor, P. O. Box 5465, North Hollywood, Ca. 91616 advised that he has the following love tokens for sale:

#1	1910 LIPELTY HEAD NICKEL: XF, Rev. "20th Nov."; on plain field, script style.	7.50
#2	1857 SEATED DIME: Vg/F; solder spot at top; Rev. "HAK" in fancy script within double wreath edgework.	5.00
#4	1358 SEATED QUARTER: scratched, Fine wear; Rev. "Kate - row" fancy wreath above and below, middle rubbed out.	3.00
#6	HALF-DOLLAR size planchet with loop; "Bonnie" on one side, "from Dan" on the other, plain field, crudely engraved ..	5.00
#3	BFACELET: with clasp for small child; 11 finely engraved seated dimes and 1806 4 gr German Silver engraved in shield "AS"	90.00
#12	\$1.00 Gold, TYPE II; holed at top; XF sharp; "Tavia" in fancy wreath rim design.	35.00
#13	\$5.00 Gold, 1831, VF dings polished; solder spot at top; Rev. bold monogram "CFE" within delicate rim design.	115.00
#21	1850-O SEATED DOLLAR: AG overall; faintly engraved across pedestal "Mar. 3rd. 1861"; Rev. engraved above eagle "C. W. Ferguson".	145.00
#22	1857 SEATED HALF: VG; solder marks; lots of dings; Rev in Gothic letters "K F W".	8.00
#23	1902 BARBER QUARTER: XF; small top hole; Rev. "Harold" surrounded by elaborate sunburst design.	12.50
#24	HATCHED PAIR 1876 SEATED QUARTERS: loops removed; Rev. fancy "A.B." within fancy wreath & geometric patterns .	20.00
#25	\$1.00 Gold: large size; solder remnant; Obv. fancy interlocked monogram "HPB" (?) with lovely intricate edge .	30.00

If you are interested in any of Dr. Taylor's tokens, send your order and check direct to Dr. Taylor with a copy to our Secretary. Include in your check an amount for postage and insurance as follows: up to \$0.00, \$1.50; \$50.00 to \$100.00 \$2.50; and over 100.00 \$3.50. Dr. Taylor has offered to donate to the Society 10% on the sale of any of the above through this Love Letter! All prices are net!

AUA PITTSBURGH LOVE TOKEN EXHIBITS

To date, I have been advised of only two members expressing a desire to place a Love Token exhibit at the ANA Pittsburgh annual convention in August. The Society has established an endowment fund to finance a First, Second, and Third plaque for Love Token exhibits at each annual ANA convention. If these placques are not used, we stand a chance of forfeiting the endowment. If you would like to exhibit and have not yet requested an application, you still can if you act at once! If only three exhibit, you are assured of a placque no matter how crude it may be. It is a lot of fun and also very educational! Apply today!

LOVE TOKENS AVAILABLE A



64
1325 OPL.

65
1856 EBH

66
1875 HE

68
1375 CAD

72
1883 HLR

73
1875 TC



78
1876 HM

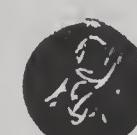
79
1877 ARJ

85
1853 LJS

88
1388 WGT

92
1887 RMF

93
1885 JRC



94
1876 AP

95
1884 F.H.J.

99
1876 MH

102
1876 WFS

103
1875 TLW

105
1875 HK



108
1857 MHJ

111
WW \$7.

113
Pin back
h \$7.

118
FS \$10.

120
HT \$7.

122
RT \$7.



127
GNS \$7.

128
CTS \$7.

129
LPP \$7.

134
NMF \$7.

138
PMN \$10

139
PWF \$7.



142
SBH \$7.

145
THM \$7.

147
TJE \$7.

148
TMJ \$8.

151
WBD \$7.

152
UGW \$7.



153
MLW \$8.

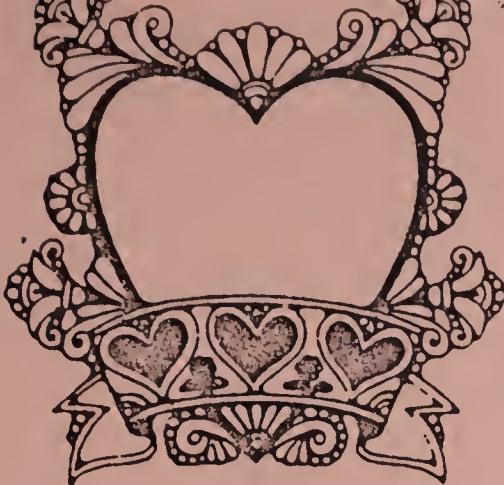
154
TMA \$8.

156
TSP \$7.

158
JT ? \$7.

160
? \$7.

1-1
? \$6.



Love Token Society

No. 125

Love Letter

October 1989

President's Message

My trip to the United Kingdom is now history. I spent 5 weeks in England and Wales. They were the most grueling, tiring, exciting, interesting and enjoyable weeks I have ever experienced. During this time, I spent 3 days traveling, 2 days of exhaustion and 30 days visiting 9 collectors, 8 museums, 4 coin dealers, 2 flea markets and the British Royal Mint.

Everywhere I went, I found the same friendly, hospitable, helpful, willing and courteous persons you would ever want to meet. I cannot speak too highly of our British neighbors. In America, there is a feeling that the English are snooty, unfriendly and inhospitable. That is the exact opposite of what I found them to be.

The trip itself was fantastic. Love token collecting in Great Britain is quite different from our ideas in the United States. The first striking difference is that nearly all of their collections are on copper pieces, whereas most of our tokens are on silver and gold. Another big difference is that the English consider any engraved coin that relates to people as a love token. For example, there are many tokens depicting births, deaths, christenings, weddings, prison sentences, hangings, portraits, jobs (such as fishermen, hunters, military service, etc.) and special events where people are involved. Usually both sides are smooth, and many have one side engraved with a poem, saying or personal message. Initials and names are not very popular. Also, enameled coins are not popular. What is popular even today is to enamel a coin on one or both sides in its original design and lettering. From the

collections I have seen both of collectors and museums, there is little on silver coins dated in the 1800s or 1900s. It would appear, date-wise, we started when they stopped.

Another thing that really amazed me was what came before love coins. Again, there is little written on these pieces which are far more intricate and beautiful than the coins. They express a real love interest as they were all handmade, some of them requiring up to two years to complete. These were made from one piece of wood. For more on this, you will have to wait for the book to be published. They are absolutely beautiful and amazing.

To sum up this message, I can only say that my trip to Great Britain was an experience I shall never forget and the information I found could not have been obtained in any other way.

Sincerely,



Financial Report

Balance as of July 31, 1989		\$3,880.40
Receipts		
Dues	\$550.00	
New Members	90.00	
Reinstated	10.00	
Contributions	5.00	
Commission on Sales -- ANA Show, Ken Barr, Paul Carroll, Lloyd Entenmann, Dave Jerdee, Dr. Sol Taylor and Don Wilkinson	117.70	
Checking Account -- 2 months' interest	<u>35.73</u>	
	\$808.43	
		<u>808.43</u>
Expenses		\$4,688.83
Check #137 Print Love Letter #124	\$88.80	
Check #138 Dues 1989-90 ANA	<u>30.00</u>	
	\$118.80	
Balance as of September 30, 1989		<u>118.80</u>
		\$4,570.03

Membership Report

Membership -- July 31, 1989	243	New Members
New Members	9	Agnew R. Alones, Floral Park, NY
Reinstated	<u>1</u>	Rick Apgar, Bedford Hills, NY
	253	Diane Augustyne-Piret, Belle Chasse, LA
Deceased	1	Timothy Burns, Worcester, MA
Resigned	6	Bernie Herrman, Jr., West Mifflin, PA
Suspended	<u>3</u>	Richard Hlebichuk, Yakima, WA
Membership -- September 30, 1989	243	Lawrence S. Hornacek, Barberton, OH
		Trevor Pavitt, London, England
		Dennis Gordon Vorley, Kent, England

Reinstated

Milana Bizic, Sewickley, PA

Deceased

Gilvin Ayers, May 14, 1989

We were sorry to receive a letter from Awanda Ayers telling us that her husband passed away on May 14, 1989. We extend our sympathy to her. The good news is that she plans on joining the Love Token Society in the near future. We look forward to receiving her application.

We received a letter from Jane Finnel who wrote, "I have been in the hospital 3 times in the past 8 months. Thank the Lord God after 4 years of a wheelchair, I am walking again." This was good news to hear, and she wanted me to put it in the newsletter to inform her many LTS friends throughout the United States.

We offer congratulations to LTS member Kenneth Hallenbeck and wish him a very successful term as president of the American Numismatic Association.

The response of my letter to delinquent members has been overwhelming. To those members who have not received a reply, I ask your patience. I expect to have all the letters answered in the near future.

Charles H. Godfrey, Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Love Token Society was held Friday, August 11, 1989, at the David Lawrence Convention Center during the 98th Annual American Numismatic Association meeting in Pittsburgh, Pa. Thirty-one persons were present.

The meeting was called to order by President Lloyd L. Entenmann. The minutes of the last stated meeting were read and approved.



Mr. Entenmann reported that he only received 7 love tokens to be offered for auction. This was an insufficient quantity, therefore in lieu of an auction, Robert Wester will display and talk about love token jewelry.

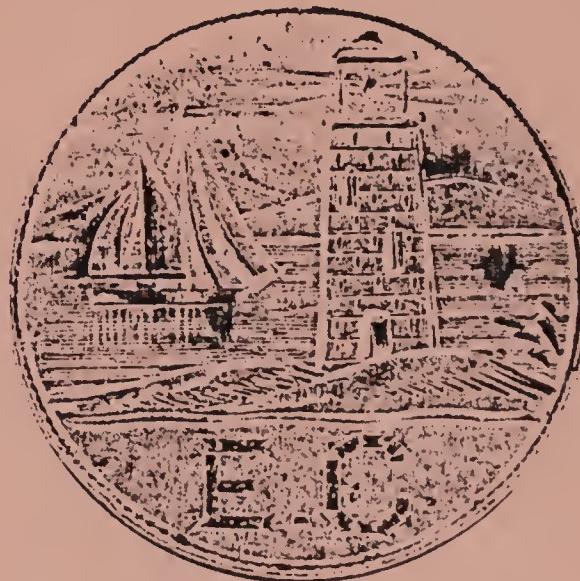
Mr. Entenmann reported that Dr. Sol Taylor resigned as editor of the Love Letter and the new editor is Dr. Robert Newhouse, a college professor. Lloyd asked that members give Dr. Newhouse their full support. He also reported that Len Overcash, our secretary-treasurer, had been diagnosed in October as having a brain tumor and passed away in December 1988. In April, he appointed Charles H. Godfrey to fill the unexpired term of Len Overcash.

As reported at our last meeting, Bill Fivaz's slide show is almost complete. After he gets titles made, the program will be given to the ANA for distribution.

During the past year, three members have won awards for love token exhibits.

After notifying delinquent members three times in 1988, it was necessary to expel 102 members, about one-third of our membership, for non-payment of dues. A letter was sent to all the delinquent members just before this meeting, and it is the wish of the officers that it will not be necessary to suspend many members this year.

Mr. Entenmann has had requests to establish a life membership classification which would eliminate the payment of yearly dues. During the discussion, it was noted that a life membership fee is usually equal to the payment of 20 years' dues. The money is to be invested in insured securities, such as savings and loan CDs with the income going into the general funds to pay expenses.



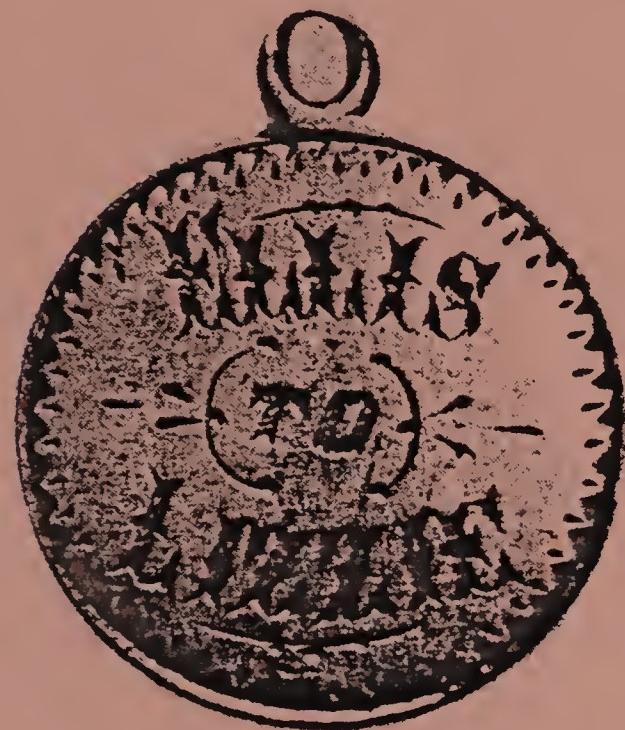
continued on page 4

Love Token Society Officers

President	Vice President	Secretary/Treasurer	Love Letter Editor
Lloyd L. Entenmann 130 Cornell Road Audubon, NJ	Judith A. Murphy P.O. Box 24056 Winston-Salem, NC 08106	Charles H. Godfrey 3575 Sipler Lane Huntingdon Valley, PA 27114	Robert C. Newhouse 3200 Ella Lane Manhattan, KS 66502
609 547-2857	919 765-5335	215 947-5846	913 539-1831

Danny Robinson noted that there appeared to be a lack of interest among the members present and suggested that a letter be sent to all members to ascertain if those not present would be interested in a life membership category. Ken Barr mentioned that the lack of interest may be due to the fact that many seniors are present at this meeting. Gus Bizic suggested that the payment of a life membership fee be spread over a four-year period. No definite conclusion was reached.

Mr. Entenmann said that the ANA has a contest for organizations to enter their publications for awards. Our society publication received honorable mention.



This year, the ANA charged \$85 for a booth. This booth was formerly free. However, the booth has brought in some new members and created interest in love tokens which makes the cost worthwhile.

Love tokens that are for sale are published in the Love Letter. Lloyd said if a member has some coins for sale, he will try to sell them. The owner sets the price, and the society is to receive 50 cents for each token sold. Lloyd is also trying a new method to reproduce love tokens for the Love Letter. Great Britain has a letter that advertises coins for sale. The cost would be about \$33 per year and does not appear to be practical for us.

Lloyd said that a true definition of a love token is necessary as some unscrupulous

people are using knockouts from electrical boxes. He cautioned the members to be aware of some dealers who are charging high prices for love tokens while buying the same coin from people at a low price because it is mutilated. Milana Bizic remarked that some people are willing to pay these high prices.

Lloyd spoke about his upcoming trip to England for additional research for his book.

Mr. Hope of the ANA Museum, acting on behalf of Bob Hooper, presented Lloyd with an award.

The ANA was unhappy because we did not have more love token exhibits. Ken Barr and Lloyd Entenmann were the only members with exhibits.

Helen Moore, who is currently ill, gave 150 love tokens to the ANA which are now in their museum.

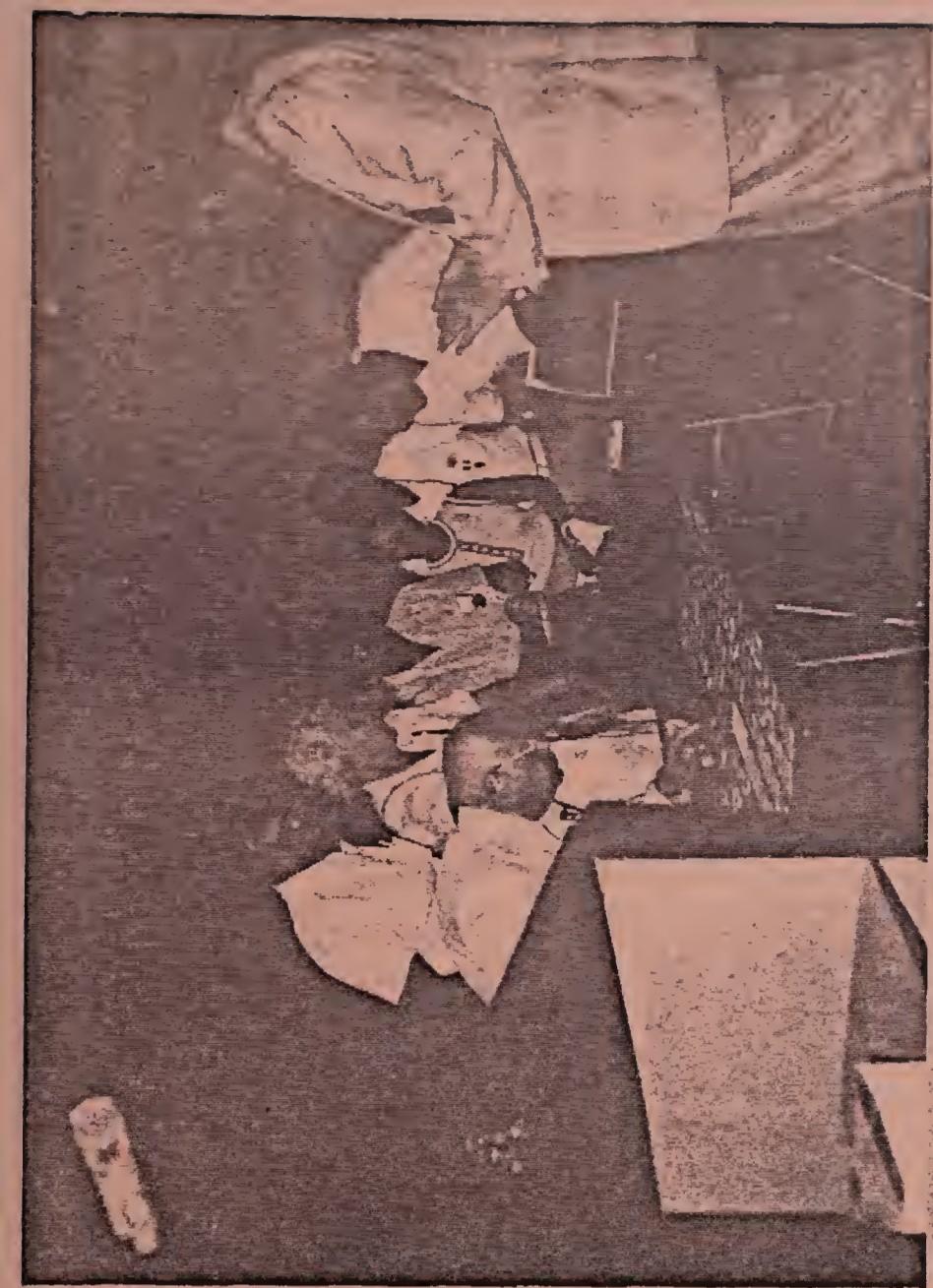
At the close of the meeting, Robert Wester talked about love tokens in New Hampshire.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles H. Godfrey, Secretary-Treasurer

August Answer

Harold Beecher's token in the August Love Letter is in Russian. The top line is a person's name, spelled Ourhnia Gheorghiadou. The balance of the engraving is "Born 3, July 1905."





Audience viewing the Wester collection



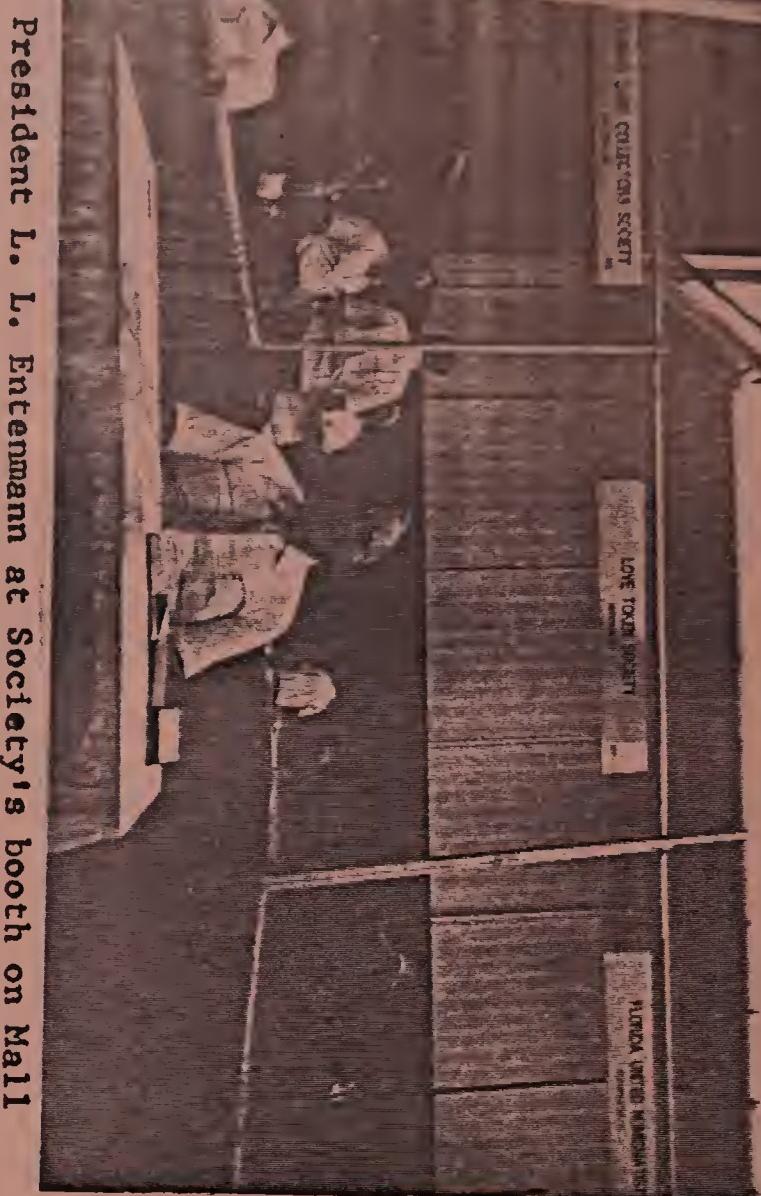
Audience attending the Annual meeting



Robert Wester speaking about his collection



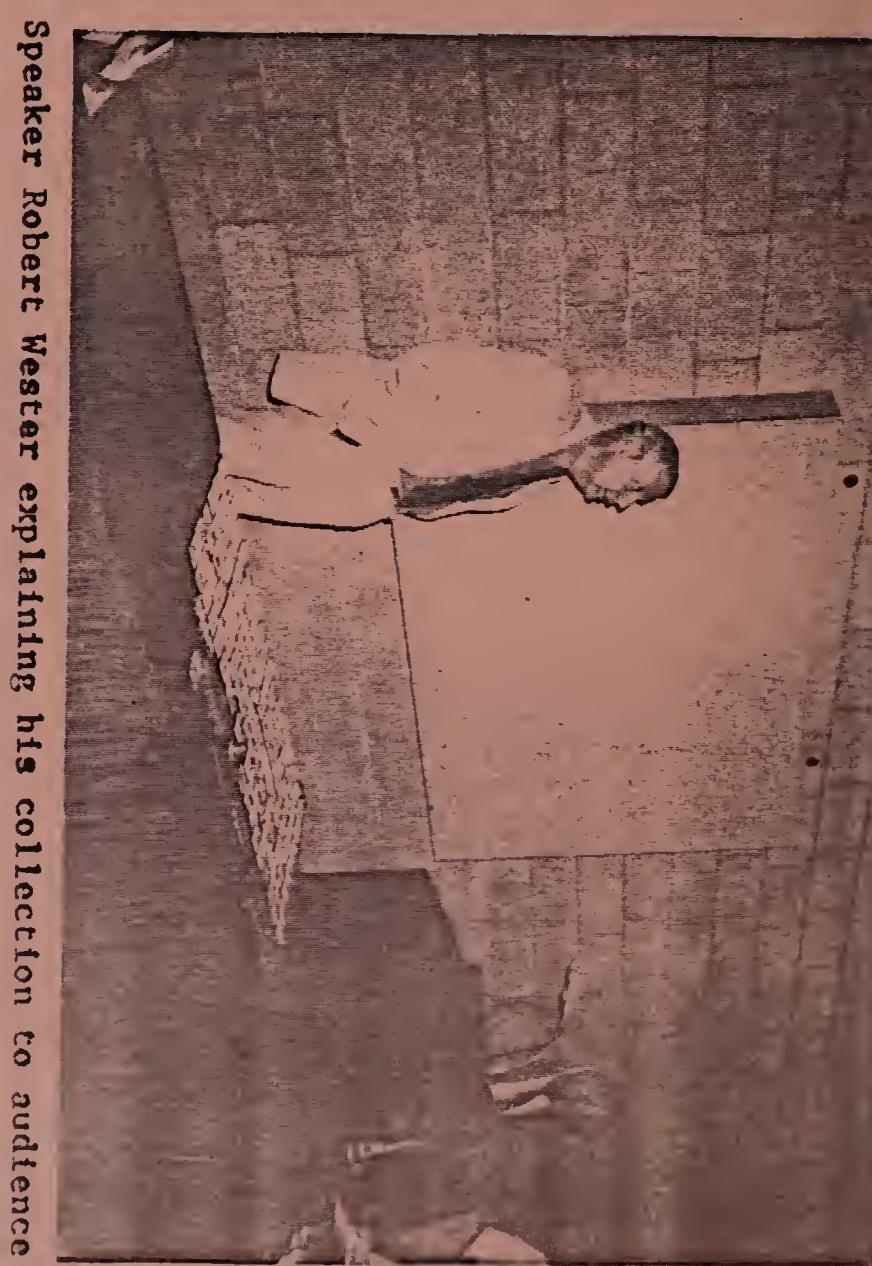
Audience attending the Annual meeting



Secretary Charles H. Godfrey at Society's booth



President at podium, Secretary reading his report



President L. L. Entenmann at Society's booth on Mall

Speaker Robert Wester explaining his collection to audience

Exhibits at ANA Convention

In spite of the several pleas made for members to enter an exhibit at the Pittsburgh convention, only one member actually entered an exhibit. Your president entered an exhibit to be non-competitive but changed it to be competitive when only one appeared so we would at least have two entries. The society has set up an endowment fund to provide three plaques at each ANA convention, one each for first, second and third place. If we don't have sufficient exhibits to award them, we are in danger of losing the endowment.

The society is your organization. If you want it, you must support it. Just paying dues is not sufficient. Someone has to do the work. Please plan now to enter an exhibit in Seattle in 1990. If you cannot be there, consult with your president and some arrangement can be made to set up and take down your exhibit. How much more can you expect your officers to do?

The judges do not know who the exhibitors are, and the only ones that are publicized are the plaque winners. This year your president, who has never exhibited anything, came up with first place. Second place was awarded to member Ken Barr. Third place was not awarded as there was no other entry.

Think about it. It is really fun to put an exhibit together. It gives you a chance to show off a part of your prized collection. Contact your president if you want more information or advice. Do it now. Keep the society alive.

Lloyd Entenmann, LTS President



Prime Minister Thatcher Presentation

The determination of your president to write a book on the origin and development of love tokens led to a decision that a trip to Great Britain was absolutely necessary to get sufficient available information. After sending out 86 letters to Great Britain and corresponding with 36 of those responding (a 45 percent success rate), a trip was planned.

The cooperation and assistance was so impressive, I wanted to do something to show our appreciation for such a warm welcome. I decided a presentation of a love token for Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher would be great. I found I had a 1925 three pence coin (her birth year), and member Bill Knecht offered to engrave it and also to engrave a 1925 silver U.S. dollar to be presented for him.

The effort to arrange the presentation turned out to be futile. I tried many contacts, but no success. In desperation, I went to the Conservative Party headquarters in London and put on such a plea that I finally got an interview with a press agent. She was impressed with the love tokens and the idea that she promised to see that the presentation would be made in my behalf. She explained that Mrs. Thatcher cannot grant such audiences as she is overrun with them. With her busy schedule, she cannot possibly grant all, but if only some were granted, she would be subject to charges of discrimination. She assured me a letter of appreciation would be received.

The acknowledgement will be in the next Love Letter. I tried hard but had to be satisfied with second best.

Lloyd Entenmann, LTS President

Love Tokens Charming

By Col. Bill Murray, NLG

Would you like to get a love letter? Most of us would. Of course, if you are married, you may qualify that by saying you want it from your spouse.

One group of dedicated numismatic collectors get a love letter on a regular basis. This particular letter is the newsletter issued by the Love Token Society.

While their numbers are small, they are a most dedicated group. Last year at the American Numismatic Association convention in Atlanta, they sponsored their own exhibit prize for the best love token exhibit at the convention. This they did in order to provide impetus to love token exhibitors and to insure that these exhibitors would feel that they were being given full attention at the convention.

They needn't have done it. It was my observation that of all the exhibits to be seen at the convention, those which displayed love tokens were among the most popular by the many viewers. Further, Mrs. Virginia Essex of Wichita Falls, Texas, was awarded second place by the ANA judges in the very tough General or Specialized category. This category is always one of the largest, and because of the wide variety of material exhibited, it is extremely difficult to win.

Perhaps you have read this far without even knowing what a love token is. By definition of the ANA *Dictionary of Numismatic Terms*, a love token is, "A coin which has been altered by smoothing one of both surfaces and engraving initials, scenes, messages, etc. thereon."

Particularly in vogue during the latter half of the last century, many love tokens have been engraved on Seated Liberty coins. Usually the obverse of the coin will be left as it was, and it is presumed that the date usually was significant to the owner. During this period in our history, engraving was an art that was widely practiced, and many of the sets of initials, sayings or scenes depicted can truly be classified as works of fine art.

Collectors of this branch of our hobby look for many different things. The quality of

the artwork itself is often enough for the collector to want the token.

One's own name or initials are frequently sought after. While I am not a love token collector per se, I could not resist purchasing a few months ago an 1890 dime with "Murry" engraved on a decorated reverse. I know that it is misspelled, but it is close!

Unusual pieces are considered desirable. A couple of examples belonging to members of the Love Token Society will make the point.

A "Lulu" bar pin with five 1884 dimes, one with a sail board and the others with the letters engraved is one example.

A Seated Liberty quarter engraved, "John Singer/aged 23 years/shot Dec. 24/Died Dec. 27, 1855," surely is intriguing to any viewer.

Gold pieces make beautiful love tokens. As most of them were designed to be worn as jewelry, usually on a chain around the neck, is not surprising that some of the most charming ones are on gold coins. Mrs. Essex's exhibit had some stunning examples of this form of artwork.

Since the coins are considered damaged as far as numismatic value is concerned, and because the number of collectors is rather small, prices for love tokens are reasonable. Four or five dollars apiece is common, and some of the less well done or worn examples may cost less. Especially ornate engraving, unusual subject matter, and of course, gold pieces will cost more.

Reprinted from *Coin World*



Counterstamped Coins Form Interesting Numismatic Study

By Maurice Gould

One of the most unusual and fascinating areas of numismatics is the collecting and attributing of various counterstamped coins. It is not unusual to make new finds. In the past, there has been a lack of interest and little research was done, but now more attention is being paid to this series, requiring more study and research than most.

Included could be anything from the unusual counterstamps of the West Indies to a sweetheart putting initials on a love token. The collecting of counterstamped large cents is of special interest as some of these were stamped and used in the Danish West Indies, St. Bartholomew, St. Lucia and Tobago. The great majority, however, were used for advertising purposes, and some coins showed the name of the company, the town and the product.

Another very interesting piece is the political item, "Vote the Land Free," which is found on large cents, usually in the 1830 period. These were circulated in the presidential election of 1848 when the question of slavery played a big part. The slogan of the Free Soil Party was "Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Labor, and Free Men." In this campaign Zachary Taylor was elected president.

Many large cents have had the reverse or obverse changed and then have been counterstamped or engraved for use in the Royal Arch Chapter of the Masonic Order. Other Masonic symbols have been found counterstamped on U.S. large cents.

Many individuals have put their initials on coins, especially on the early large cents. At one time there was a superstition about a bad penny returning to its owner. You have probably heard the old saying, "A bad penny always turns up." The owners thought they would make them "bad" by initialling them.

Many years ago Dave Bowers, who at the time was in Binghamton, N.Y., and now of Bowers & Ruddy Galleries of Hollywood,

Calif., wrote to me that he had found some of the counterstamps to be silversmith's marks of the early period and in this area there is plenty of room for study and research.

Canada also had its counterstamped pieces, the most famous of which is the Devins & Bolton, Montreal. This is to be found on many different dates of large cents, on numerous different Canadian tokens and even on world coins and United States Colonials. I compiled a list of these many years ago which can be found in the Canadian Numismatic Association Journal. Other articles have appeared in *The Numismatist*, July 1947 and also in 1957.

One of the classic books in this field is Howland Wood's *Cut and Counterstamped Coins of the West Indies*.

Sometimes U.S. advertising counterstamps are to be found on Spanish Colonial pieces, which circulated and were legal tender in this country until 1857. These are scarce and are highly prized among collectors.

Some U.S. coins were counterstamped as admission tickets to theatres and circuses.

Reprinted from *Numismatic News Weekly*



Member Requests

A new member, Charles Kling of Evanston, Ill., is looking for love tokens with the initials MK or MRK on a silver dime or preferably a larger planchet. If anyone can help, please contact him at:

1719 Ridge Ave. #3

Evanston, IL 60201

Joe Baranyi of Trenton, N.J., said, "I have a large love token collection by going to markets and coin shows. I expanded my

collecting to coin rings. They are out of 25 and 50 cent pieces. I have been told they were made by prisoners. Some say by servicemen. I would like information on this coin ring fad if there is any."

Anyone with information may contact:

Joseph Baranyi, Sr.

2005 S. Clinton Ave.

Trenton, NJ 08610.



Dr. Robert C. Newhouse
3200 Ella Lane
Manhattan, KS 66502





Love Token Society

No. 126

Love Letter

December 1989

President's Message

The year 1989 has been a very full, exciting and productive year. We have made many new friends in Great Britain, some of which will continue on through the years ahead. A lot of information has been obtained on the beginning and development of love tokens, and we are now in the process of reducing it down into book form which will be available to everyone in the future. The first draft of two chapters has been completed as of this writing, and the third chapter is being worked on.

Our society has held its own in members and shows signs of growing again. An interest in love token collecting is increasing due largely to publicity and support of current members. Your officers are always willing to help members with any problems and also in finding and disposing of love tokens. Elsewhere in this Love Letter is a list of some 60 love tokens that are available from a member. If you are interested in any of them, please contact me as soon as possible, as the first request gets the token. Too often in the past, a member waited a week or so and then sent in a check for one or more items only to find they have already been sold. "He who hesitates is lost!" Usually the prices are reasonable, as if I feel the member is asking too much, I ask for a revision or I do not accept the item.

I am planning on being at the FUN show in Tampa, Florida, during the whole show. If you are attending, please make it a point to find me. You can have me paged or inquire at the communication desk as to where I can be reached. We will not have a meeting or a booth at this show. At the moment, I am also

planning on attending the ANA Mid-Winter Show in San Diego but have not yet made any reservations.

At our annual meeting in August in Seattle, we will have an election of officers. We need a vice president, and I will be glad to discuss it with any member who feels he or she may be interested.

I take this opportunity to wish each and every member and their families a Very Merry Christmas and a Most Happy and Prosperous New Year. Good Night, and God Bless You.

Sincerely,
Lloyd Entenmann



Reader Request

We have another request for help in identifying specific names or initials on love tokens. Check your collections for KS, KAS, Kate, Kathleen or, if one were to exist, Katie Ann.

If you can help, please contact:
Earl Shoemaker
700 East State St.
Iola, WI 54990

While you're at it, the editor is looking for the initials BN or BSN or Barb or Barbara. Please let me know if you have one or more for purchase. Thanks.

Financial Report

Balance as of September 30, 1989	\$4,570.03
Receipts	
New Member Dues	\$20.00
Checking Account -- 2 months' interest	\$41.77
Subtotal	\$4,631.80
Expenses	
Check #139 -- print Love Letter #125	\$97.35
Balance as of November 30, 1989	\$4,534.45

Membership Report

Membership -- September 30, 1989	243	<i>Reminder</i>
New Members	2	
Membership -- November 30, 1989	245	Dues for 1990 are now payable. Send your \$10 check now.

New Members

Joan I. Rapsus, Oak Lawn, IL
Linda Campbell, Jemison, AL

Charles H. Godfrey
Secretary-Treasurer

Roll Call by States

Arizona	3	Maryland	4	Pennsylvania	17
California	28	Massachusetts	9	Rhode Island	2
Colorado	9	Michigan	9	South Carolina	1
Connecticut	4	Mississippi	1	Tennessee	3
Delaware	1	Missouri	5	Texas	7
Florida	15	Nebraska	1	Vermont	2
Georgia	7	Nevada	1	Virginia	7
Hawaii	2	New Hampshire	3	Washington	7
Illinois	16	New Jersey	10	Wisconsin	7
Indiana	2	New Mexico	1	Canada	11
Iowa	1	New York	18	England	3
Kansas	3	North Carolina	7	Total	245
Kentucky	1	Ohio	9		
Louisiana	2	Oklahoma	1		
Maine	3	Oregon	2		

Love Token Society Officers

President	Vice President	Secretary/Treasurer	Love Letter Editor
Lloyd L. Entenmann 130 Cornell Road Audubon, NJ	Judith A. Murphy P.O. Box 24056 Winston-Salem, NC	Charles H. Godfrey 3575 Sipler Lane Huntingdon Valley, PA	Robert C. Newhouse 3200 Ella Lane Manhattan, KS
08106 609 547-2857	27114 919 765-5335	19006 215 947-5846	66502 913 539-1831

Not All Love Tokens Are About Love

By Helen Moore

Chances are if you mention love tokens to someone, the response will be "I never heard of them" or "I have a dime with initials on it." Most love tokens were dimes engraved with one, two or three initials, sometimes script or block letters, very often superimposed.

The object of this article is to focus on engraved U.S. coins used in other ways. One type was fraternal organizations. One large 1845 cent engraved for the Dewitt Clinton Lodge has the Masonic Keystone plus the member's name, Edward J. May Sr. with his initials EJM in the center.

Another Masonic token has the familiar square, compass and capital G on a quarter with arrows. The 1889 seated Liberty dime is engraved with a cross and crown emblems of the Knights Templar organization, an advanced degree in the Masonic fraternity. It also has Dan on it.



On the distaff side is a seated Liberty quarter engraved for an Eastern Star Chapter -- Eureka No. 4.

Another fraternal organization is represented on a seated Liberty quarter -- the Odd Fellows -- as indicated by the three links -- Friendship, Love and Truth. Apparently, J. Blades was a member. A similar one has two dimes soldered together; one side has three links, the other has engraved Chester.

An 1854 seated Liberty quarter was used as a funeral token. Baby -- Born Dec. 9 - Died Dec. 12 - 1894. There are other funeral

tokens of a little different type -- some have a single initial engraved and enameled in black. One theory is that someone in the family had such tokens made for members of the immediate family.

Two other quarters represent different categories. One is an award to the Champion Clam Eater, Reading, Pa. It is on an 1893 Barber quarter with a pin -- ready for wearing. The other seated Liberty quarter is a military dog tag: D.E. Guiles, Co. C. Vet. Cav. N.Y.S.V.

At the 1876 centennial celebration, someone purchased a 20 cent coin engraved, Have you been to the Centennial? Originally it may have had a small ring holding a red, white and blue ribbon, which could be pinned on.

A Columbia half-dollar was an award -- Chrysanthemum Show First Prize 1901, Corning, N.Y.

I have seen several other awards -- also on half dollars. One had crossed bats and was given to B.B. Club (baseball ball club). Another was an award for penmanship, and a fourth was for winning a three-legged race.

Two Morgan dollars expressed holiday greetings. The 1891 dollar is engraved 1891 Merry Christmas is the wish of Phil. Companion piece to that is the 1892 dollar which is engraved 1892 Happy New Year is the wish of Phil.

Love tokens have been found on nearly every type of U.S. coin. A type set shows everything from a half cent to a \$20 gold piece. The set includes a Lincoln cent and a Washington quarter.

It is believed engraving coins as a keepsake originated in England, painstakingly done by sailors and prisoners. Some had verses on them. When the craze hit the United States, most of the engraving seems to be done by trained persons whom we do not know. Actually each piece is different. Each is really an art form: Folk Art.

continued on next page

Collectors of love tokens can specialize in a certain field -- names of women, names of men, scenes, initials in script or blocked letters, or collect only dimes or only gold.

If your pocketbook can stand it, you could specialize in gold -- beginning with the genuine California 25 cent piece.

Jewelry is another field -- bracelets, brooches, stick pins, cuff links, vest chains, watch fobs, necklaces, etc.

Once you are into love tokens, you will want to get the latest bulletins, price lists from dealers, auction lots, etc. These are available through the Love Token Society, originated in 1972 and now with more than 200 members.

Reprinted from *FUN-Topics*

Jo: LJS
From: SC

1989

Love Tokens Available

Sol Taylor advises he still has the following love tokens for sale. If interested, send your check directly to Dr. Sol Taylor, P.O. Box 5465, North Hollywood, CA 91616-5465.

1. GUATEMALA 5 peso gold .900 fine 1874P, Krause Cat \$300, Yeoman #66, loop obv. elaborate enameled AE in red and blue with flourishes around. XF overall.	\$125
2. Two-sided dime: Bettie and Sol -- the only Sol I ever saw.	\$9
3. 1882 Morgan dollar, remnants of clasp obv, dinged up VF grade but scarred up, rev. AHE monogram on stippled fieldwork. Some edge dings and rough spots, VG overall.	\$55
4. 1871 Seated Half solder blob in center VG-F, Rev. on a small scroll EJL to JL, fancy multiple rim design around. Few bumps but nice overall.	\$17.50
5. 1859 Seated Quarter engraved in obv field to the right Jan. 5 and on the left J.E.G. 2 solder blobs rev. VF	\$15
6. 1853 Arrows 25 cent VF intact pin obv, rev. lovely work C.A.N. crossed wreaths above and below	\$15
7. RARE COIN 1850-0 Seated Dollar obviously a pocket piece from smooth, even wear AG-G. Base of Seated Liberty barely visible is Mar. 3, 1861. Rev above eagle engraved C.W. Ferguson (or maybe G.W.). Trends over \$300 as a type and date.	\$145

Offers considered. Will trade for mint U.S. commemorative stamps at 90 percent of face value.



Love Tokens Available

301 HAD \$7.	302 MA \$7.	303 IMR \$7.	304 CWS \$7.	305 LH'sFT* \$7.	306 E \$7.
307 F \$7.	308 ? \$7.	309 JFH \$7.	310 HLL \$7.	311 OD \$7.	312 MFF \$7.
313 JHS \$7.	314 HBH \$7.	315 CWK \$7.	316 MC \$7.	317 BW \$7.	318 @ \$7.
319 RET \$7.	320 MAG \$7.	321 SJM \$7.	322 BAM \$7.	323 BJN \$7.	324 CFW \$7.
325 ? \$7.	326 JS \$8.	327 WS \$8.	328 MJ \$8.	329 WJE \$8.	330 MES \$8.
331 JDW \$8.	332 LO \$8.	333 LNP \$8.	334 CWJ \$9.	335 SCP \$9.	336 CNF \$9.

337 JHT \$9.	338 CGJ \$9.	339 PHT \$9.	340 CES \$9.	341 AM \$9.	342 BAM \$9.
343 AF \$9.	344 BFM \$9.	345 Dodd \$9.	346 RLC \$9.	347 CWL + \$9.	348 PCW \$9.
349 DAV \$9.	350 GEB \$9.	351 BRL \$9.	352 CMF % \$9.	353 Pet \$9.	354 WWS \$9.
355 EHN \$9.	356 CKA \$9.	357 JKL¢ \$10.	358 I \$10.	359 # \$10.	360 ER $\frac{1}{4}$ \$12.

Footnotes

- * CLS engraved on reverse
- @ engraved: FCB No 173 FLT No 559 VMC No 1103
- ? cannot distinguish what engraving is
- + 1884 engraved on reverse
- % D engraved on reverse
- ¢ A o u T engraved on reverse at 12, 3, 6 & 9 o'clock
- # Race Greene N.Y. in script on three lines on obverse
- 1/4 MJ engraved on reverse

If you're interest in any of the above, please send check to the president, Lloyd Entenmann, as soon as possible, including postage and insurance. Orders up to \$50, add \$1.25; over \$50, add \$2.25.

Tokens of True Love

By Estella Robinson

During the 18th and 19th centuries in England, Europe and America, many young men among the poor working classes made love tokens from low-value copper coins.

Soldiers and sailors were among the most generous in handing out these mementos, no doubt because they were often away from their sweethearts.

Wealthier men splurged on silver and gold coins.

Many a sovereign, shilling or sixpence was defaced as a gesture of their passion.

Many tokens sported such common romantic symbols as Cupid, bows and arrows, love birds, hearts and flowers, and lovers' knots.

Intertwined initials of the lovers or one or both names frequently appeared. Some were dated.

Technique

The standard of workmanship overall is excellent especially when one considers that the men who made them were not skilled and often used such crude tools as nails or bits of glass.

English love tokens vary in size from the massive 1797 Cartwheel twopence of George III to farthings.

Although the technique for making them was simple, it often required a lot of effort.

The lovesick swain first rubbed down the coin on one or both sides until the original design was obliterated.

Then he engraved upon the blank surfaces designs and legends that ranged from plain and short to ornate and complex.

Tom Hanley, secretary of the Australian Numismatic Society and author of the recently-published book *Australian Coins, Notes and Medals*, has one engraved on a 1776 English halfpenny.

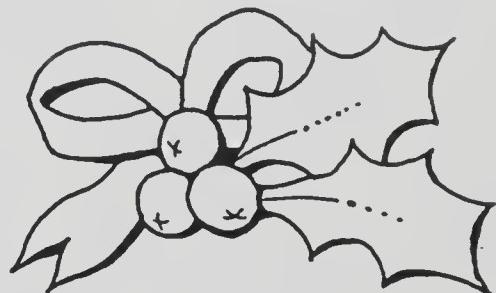
It reads, Success to true harts, which could be more a case of fitting the message to the limited space than a poor speller.

One English token dated 1784 has a

beautifully crafted vase of flowers on one side. On the other is this inscription: Sweet is thy love, soft is thy breast; if you prove trew to me, from you I never part. William.

William must have spent many eye-straining hours in flickering candlelight to create his token.

Here's hoping she did not let him down.



In America many of the love tokens were the work of itinerant engravers who travelled the state and county fair circuits in the 1880s and 1890s.

For a reasonable fee they engraved mostly silver coins into love tokens.

Dimes, quarters, half dollars and even French 50-centime pieces and English sixpences were the engravers' favourites.

Love tokens are eagerly sought in the USA which even has a society of love token collectors.

Particularly well engraved pieces sell for upwards of \$50.

Surprisingly, the only love tokens engraved on Australian coins which have appeared to date are on 1942 and 1943 florins.

They are believed to be the handiwork not of Australians but of American servicemen stationed here during World War II.

Why no locally produced tokens? Did the Aussie male fancy his lady too little to sacrifice the face value of his coins? Did he shrink from a gesture that could have labelled him a cissy?

Whatever the reason, neither "harts" nor flowers ever replaced a 'roo here.

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Sydney, Australia

Editor's Corner

Our readers are responding to the new format of the Love Letter. Here are some sample comments.

"I was pleased with the last Love Letter. I think the change is welcome!"

"This is the first time I believe there has been a professional-looking Love Letter, and I am a charter member. Congratulations!"

"I want to give you my congratulations on the Love Letter. It looks great, and I am looking forward to the next issue."

"Congratulations. LL 125 is terrific. You have done a marvelous job in the short time you have been bulletin editor."

"Please let me thank you and congratulate

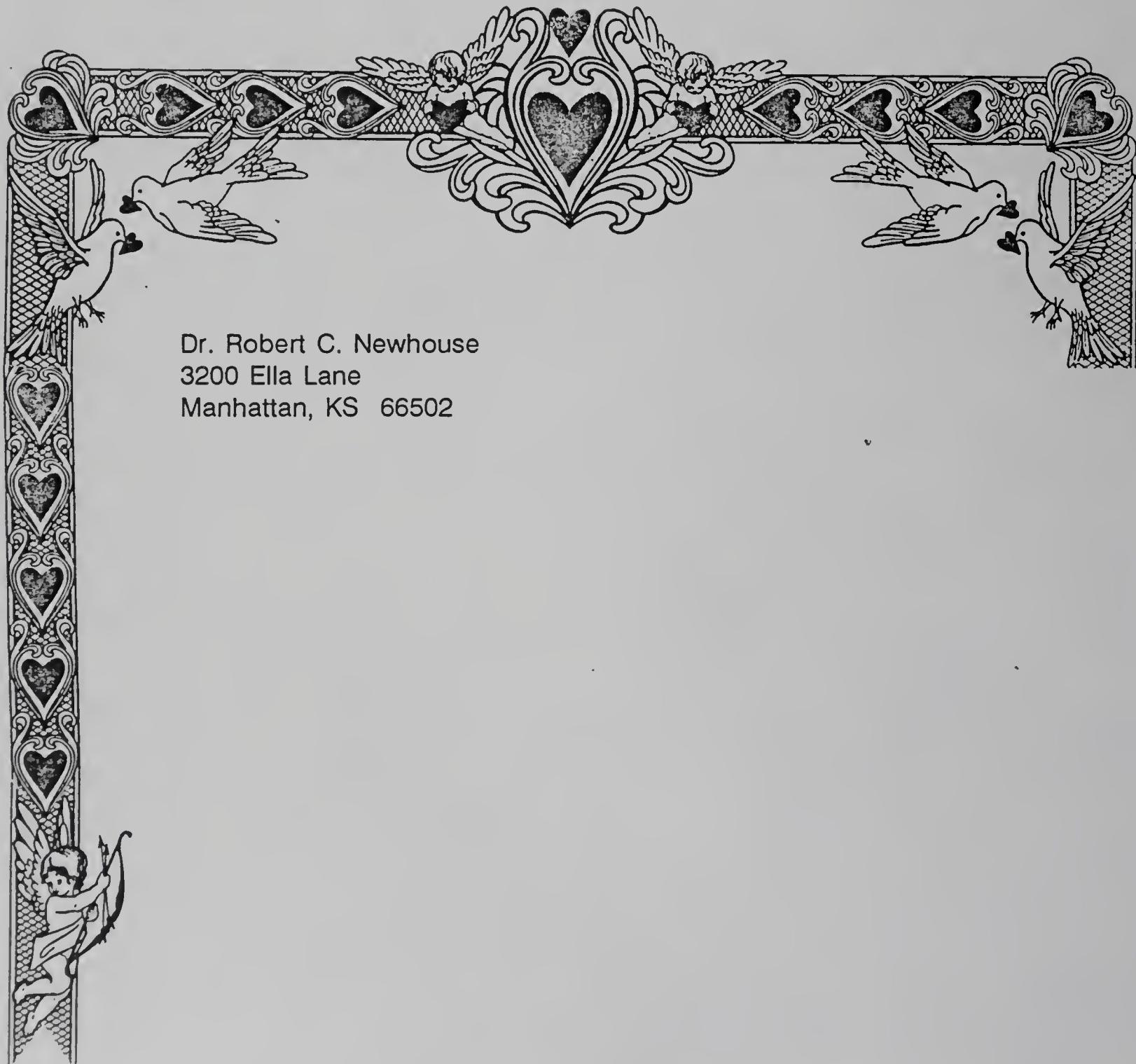
you on the superb publication of our Love Token Society."

"I want to tell you that the last Love Letter was really great. I have had letters complimenting the new style and format. Congratulations!"

"Congratulations on your first issue of the Love Letter. It is certainly a nice improvement."

The editor wishes to thank all of you who took time to write and express your opinions. They are most welcome. Have a great holiday season, and keep the cards and letters rolling in.

Bob Newhouse



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